

HOLLY & ANDREW

2.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I found a guy on Craigslist with tickets, which gives me three hours to go home, get ready, pick up flowers, meet this guy in the South Bronx, not get killed, show up at her door and take her on the most amazing second first date in history.

Scene #1

EXT. NEW YORK CITY BALLET - LATER

HOLLY emerges to find Andrew.

Start



Holly.

ANDREW

She turns. It takes her a second, but she gets there.

HOLLY

Andy!

She HUGS him.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

ANDREW

I live in New York and I was in the audience and... I saw you dance! You were amazing!

HOLLY

Wow, were you here alone?

ANDREW

No, I was actually... on a date.

HOLLY

Ballet? Good date. Romantic. So where is this broad?

ANDREW

(fumbling)

She had to take off, her grandmother is... pregnant.

HOLLY

Aw man, that's a really weird bummer. So how are you? How's your family?

ANDREW
Well, my dad died a few years ago.

HOLLY
I'm sorry.

ANDREW
My mom's starting to date. If you want to grab a drink, I can tell you what it's like to be your mom's wingman.

HOLLY
I would, but I have an early matinee tomorrow. Kind of tough to stay en pointe when you're hungover.

ANDREW
Oh. Right, sure.
(then)
Well, here's my number, in case you want to find me.

He gives her his card.

HOLLY
Advertising, huh?

ANDREW
Yeah, copywriting. Making America love ranch dressing, one slogan at a time.

HOLLY
You always saw the best in things.
Good to see you, Andy.

Holly starts off. He watches her go for a beat, then:

ANDREW
(bursting)
PANCAKES!

She turns.

HOLLY
What?

ANDREW
Pancakes.
(then)
(MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

There's this diner three blocks from here that makes the best pancakes in New York. No drinks. Just pancakes. Dancers need carbs, right?

A beat, as Holly considers.

HOLLY

Pancakes, huh?

ANDREW

The best you'll ever have.

HOLLY

Pancakes do sound kind of great right now.

Andrew looks to the heavens and mouths "THANK YOU." STOP

ANDREW

EXT. BRIDAL SHOP - DAY

Andrew runs into Holly outside the bridal shop.

ANDREW

Holly?

HOLLY

Andy.

ANDREW

When did you...?

HOLLY

I've been back for about a month.

ANDREW

Wow. Good -- I mean I guess that's good. Is it good? Sorry, it's just weird seeing you.

HOLLY

It is good. It's great. I came back to start teaching dance. Continuing the proud tradition of turning young girls into driven, single-minded, graceful knots of anxiety.

JEREMY

8.

PAUL

I can imagine. That's why I haven't moved in fifteen years. No, really, what do you even do with a third floor?

MAGGIE

We're pretending it doesn't exist. We threw some of the previous owners' old furniture up there, but now I feel like we probably should've just shared the house with them.

JEREMY, Maggie's literary agent, insinuates himself.

TOM

Hi Jeremy. Thanks for coming.

Jeremy nods to Tom.

JEREMY

Maggie, can I steal you for a second?

MAGGIE

No, there's nothing to discuss yet.

JEREMY

That's what I'd like to discuss.

MAGGIE

Well, I'm not keeping any secrets.

JEREMY

Okay. Look, you know what I'm going to say. They want to see that you're on track to deliver. A chapter, an outline, a synopsis—they'd take a one-liner at this point.

Maggie gestures pushing an imaginary stack of papers towards him.

MAGGIE

Here, this is everything.

JEREMY

I can't buy much more time. You can always change it later. I just need something to create the illusion of progress.

MAGGIE BLACK

1/2

JEREMY

9.

MAGGIE

Then it sounds like you can write it.

Jeremy takes Maggie's arm and leads her a bit away from the circle.

JEREMY

Maggie, they've made a major investment in you. Yeah?

MAGGIE

Fine. I'll get you something.

JEREMY

Thank you. (To Tom)
Congratulations, it's a beautiful home.

END

||

Maggie, preoccupied, rejoins the circle.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

With the house now quiet, Maggie lies on the bed, still in her party clothes, holding a bar of chocolate. Tom flops onto the bed next to her. She breaks a piece off and passes it to him.

TOM

You must be feeling better.

MAGGIE

At least I have an appetite. I think everyone had fun. Don't you?

TOM

Yeah, yeah. Jeremy's a force.

MAGGIE

I don't know what he expects me to give him. I can't write anything when I'm this foggy. What I'd really like to do is just go off my pills for a while so I can emerge from this cloud. Feel like myself.

TOM

No, Maggie.

MAGGIE

Just till I can at least get the synopsis out the door. Maybe start a few chapters.

MAGGIE BLACK

2/2

MARGO & ANN

START

INT. STORE - DAY

Margot - the high fashion store clerk (full 80's valley and always smiling) helps Ann out.

MARGOT

Hi, can I help you find something?

ANN

Yeah. What's your store returns policy?

MARGOT

No, I said - can I help you *find* something. Not - can I help you.

ANN

Oh. Sorry.

MARGOT

Don't be sorry. What can I help you with?

ANN

Umm, your returns policy?

MARGOT

We have one. What about it?

ANN

I wanted to know how it works. Do I get a full refund after thirty days.

MARGOT

Of course you do.

ANN

Oh good. That's cool.

MARGOT

We like to help the customers. With a twenty-five-percent restocking fee.

ANN

Wait, what?

MARGOT

What.

ANN

There's a restocking fee?

lofa

MARGOT
Totally normal.

ANN
Not really.

MARGOT
Fully really. Any nice store is gonna take your reject back but we need to charge because we have to restock it.

ANN
You mean - hang it back up? On the rack?

MARGOT
Exactly.

ANN
That costs twenty-five-percent?

MARGOT
Uh huh.

ANN
Really?

MARGOT
Look, I don't know all the numbers and figures - the owner knows that stuff - but she's figured out how much it costs to have us take time out of our day, away from customers, to hang up the returns. It's twenty-five-percent of the retail cost. Business math.

ANN
That's insane.

MARGOT
Totally.

ANN
Can't you let me slide if I buy something?

MARGOT
(smiling)
I would love to - but seriously - I don't know you - and don't really care about you. Anything else?

↓
END

"TJ"

(3 scenes - choose just one)

FOR TJ AND WINTERS

INT. PACIFIC DINING CAR - NIGHT

Winters eats a steak and ginger ale. TJ eats a salad and a draft beer.

SC.1

WINTERS
K.K. pays Cindy to date Chelsea.
Manto finds out, leverages Cindy
into the robbery scheme. She likes
it. It's profitable. Until Sam
becomes a liability and she kills
him.

"T. J."

3.

TJ
You think Sam was a good kid turned
bad or just a bad kid?

WINTERS
I think he was a kid.

TJ
Twenty-one. Some cougar came after
me...

WINTERS
You wouldn't have turned thief.

TJ
I could've gotten my head spun.

WINTERS
You wanna believe that, that's your
choice.

TJ
It's true.

WINTERS
It doesn't matter. Sam could've
been an angel, he could've been a
devil child. Cindy murdered him.
~~And I don't care your background or~~
your upbringing -- you don't get to
kill people.

The Waitress approaches.

WAITRESS
Another beer, another ginger ale?

WINTERS
Sure.

The Waitress retreats.

TJ
Ginger ale? Really?

WINTERS
Look who's having a salad at a
steak house.

A beat. A thought occurs to TJ:

TJ
What if we do it backward. What if
we don't go after Cindy for murder?

2/6

"T. J."

WINTERS

We're gonna give her a jaywalking ticket?

TJ

We charge her with pimping out her daughter. K.K. paid Cindy.

WINTERS

To "date" Chelsea.

TJ

Which included sex.

WINTERS

It won't stick. And even if it did, it's a slap on the wrist sentence.

TJ

It doesn't have to stick. It just has to endanger Cindy's relationship with Chelsea.

WINTERS

(catching on)
Because without Chelsea...

TJ

...Cindy'd never get past the velvet rope.

Winters and TJ reach for their wallets, wave for the check.

end sc.

1

sc.
2

FOR TJ AND WINTERS

INT. BEDROOM, COLIN BLAKELY'S HOUSE - DAY *

ANGLE OUT THE WINDOW - paparazzi cluster behind police tape. Sipping from a travel mug Winters circles the room analyzing the blood spray patterns. TJ hangs by the walk-in closet. *

TJ *

Victim's Miranda Clarke, girlfriend of the owner. EMTs took her to Kaiser. Multiple contusions, lacerations, possible of concussion. *

3/6

"T. J."

WINTERS

What's the draw for the gutter rats?

*
*
*

TJ

Owner's Colin Blakely. The new Shadow. Universal's rebooting the franchise.

*
*
*
*

WINTERS

Yeah? Wouldn't know him from Adam.

*
*

TJ

Nine months ago he was sleeping on couches. Then he aces one audition, suddenly he's worth three million a movie.

*
*
*
*
*

WINTERS

Well, his profile fits the pattern: young Hollywood type, big house unlocked windows. But this level of violence... Our guys are sneak thieves. In and out. 15 clean jobs.

*
*
*
*
*
*

TJ

Contents of the closet fit.

(pointing out)

Suits are Hugo Boss, Varvatos. Shoes are Barney's, Helmut Lang.

*
*
*
*
*

Winters tosses TJ an aren't-you-the-fashion-maven look.

*

TJ (cont'd)

I read the labels. There's Bulgari and Cartier cuff links on the shelf. No way they'd leave them behind unless they got interrupted.

*
*
*
*
*

WINTERS

So Miranda being home was a surprise?

*
*
*

TJ

It'd bring it in line with the pattern, and sudden panic could explain the level of violence.

*
*
*
*

WINTERS

Any sense of what did they ~~get?~~ got?

*
*

4/6

"T. J."

6.

TJ
Watch winder's empty and if you
look up top, there are eight Rolex
boxes.

WINTERS
The guy's got two arms and eight
Rolexes?

TJ shoves aside a rack of clothes to reveal a safe.

TJ
Two arms, eight Rolexes, and one
safe he didn't use.

WINTERS
Genius.

TJ
Actors.

end sc.

2

FOR TJ scene 3

TJ shows Chelsea the sketch of Sam.

TJ (CONT'D)
You ever see this boy?

CHELSEA
No.

TJ
What about anyone unusual hanging
around you at the club, anyone who
gave you bad vibes?

CHELSEA
We were just there to have a good
time. We didn't see anybody.

Chelsea digs a bottle of pills from her purse. Digs three
pills out of the bottle. She notes Winters attitude.

CHELSEA (cont'd) (CONT'D)
They're for migraines.

TJ shifts gears, adopts a warm countenance and sits down
beside Chelsea.

5/6

"T. J."

7.

TJ
You ever go to Throb or Cushion?

CHELSEA
Sure.

TJ
What about back when Cushion was
Class-A?

CHELSEA
No, but I hear it kicked.

TJ
Legend's always better than the
truth.

(beat)
My partner and I think there's a
burglary crew travelling the club
circuit. They've hit 15 places we
know of so far. They target people
like you and Colin because you're
young and wealthy and you have
profile and it's easy to track when
you stay out late.

CHELSEA
(rueful)
Everyone always knows where I am.

TJ
You'd be a perfect target. Up to
yesterday they only hit empty
houses, but when they stumbled onto
Colin's girlfriend, they beat her
unconscious. These are not good
people.

CHELSEA
Now you're just trying to scare me.

TJ
Can you take another look at the
sketch for me?

Chelsea looks at the sketch.

~~FOR-NOVEMBER~~

6/6